

February 2, 1979

Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority  
RD 1, 99 Green Bank Road  
Boonton, New Jersey 07005

Attention: Mr. John P. Whalen,  
Chairman

Re: 519 KVRSA  
Contract V - Wharton Section  
L. E. Carpenter & Company

Gentlemen:

As discussed briefly at our meeting on January 25, 1979, we have obtained the results of the laboratory tests performed on samples of groundwater taken from test pits excavated on the L. E. Carpenter and Company property in the Borough of Wharton. A copy of the tabulation of test results is attached hereto for your review and information. As indicated in the tabulation, Sample 1 and Sample 2 were tested in two phases, since the fluid readily separated due to the high oil and grease content. The tests were run in this manner in order to evaluate the acceptability of skimming the floating material for disposal and permitting discharge of the remaining solution to the River or the sewer system.

In reviewing these test results, it is our opinion that Samples 1 and 2, taken from test pit locations as indicated on the attached plan, show levels of oil and grease, phthalate and Xylene in both phases, which are high enough to preclude disposal of dewatering discharges either directly to the Rockaway River or to the existing sanitary sewer system. As alternatives, the discharge can either be treated on site, utilizing portable treatment units, followed by discharge to the sewer system or removed from the site, treated and disposed of by an outside service company specializing in chemical waste disposal. In our opinion, the second of these alternatives represents the most desirable solution to the disposal problem, since it is conceivable that reliability and control of an on-site treatment unit may result in questionable efficiencies and effectiveness.

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We are currently in contact with SCA Chemical Services Company, Earthline Division, of Newark, New Jersey, in order to establish estimated costs for transportation and disposal of the dewatering discharge. On a preliminary basis, Earthline has indicated that depending upon composition, these costs could range from \$0.15 per gallon to \$2.00 per gallon. On this basis, assuming an overall quantity of 20,000 gallons of discharge, the total costs could range from \$3,000 to \$40,000, plus transportation costs. A sample of the material has been delivered to Earthline for their analysis and we anticipate receiving a firm quotation on the related costs within the coming week. The overall quantity of 20,000 gallons has been estimated based upon observations made during the test pit excavations. We are currently making arrangements to have three additional test holes dug and tested, downstream of the Carpenter property to better define the area presently influenced by the landfill and to determine the length of trench from which disposal of dewatering discharges would be necessary.

In addition, because of the unusual nature of the dewatering requirements, we believe it likely that some additional costs may be incurred by the contractor during construction operations within the area influenced by the Carpenter waste landfill. This issue has not been evaluated or discussed with the contractor at this time but we believe the effects of the disposal operation on construction activities can be minimized through the cooperative efforts of all parties.

Although no firm schedule for construction activities at this location has yet been established, we believe the necessary arrangements for disposal of this material should be made as much in advance as possible. It is conceivable that since a "Notice to Proceed" has been issued to the Contractor, construction activities could commence within the area, with only one to two weeks notice and the necessary authorization should be made within this time frame, if the possibility of a work suspension is to be avoided.

We have contacted the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Hazardous and Chemical Wastes, in order to advise them of the conditions encountered. We are awaiting response from the Bureau concerning their possible involvement either prior to or during construction within the effected area.

Should the Authority have any questions concerning this matter, we will be available to discuss them at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

ELSON T. KILLAM ASSOCIATES, INC.

JRK/acl

James R. Kane

cc: Mr. William H. Francisco, Jr.  
Joseph J. Maraziti, Jr., Esq.

Mr. Chester F. Ritzer

All RVRSA Member Municipalities Representatives

Bureau of Hazardous & Chemical Wastes (DEP) (Attn: Ronald Korcovy)